

## SUMMARY

HA-338

Gover-Curry House  
2015 Nobles Mill Rd.  
Darlington, Md. 21034

The Gover-Curry house was built by members of the Gover family in the middle of the 19th century. At that time, the Govers owned the Mill, which first served as a saw and clover mill and then as a grist mill. The survival of the frame smokehouse with its original cedar shakes and the frame kitchen/playroom is worth noting.

MAGI # 1303385504

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Gover-Curry House

AND/OR COMMON

Franklin Curry's House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

2015 Nobles Mill Rd.,

(north side of Nobles Mill Rd., west of junction with  
East Nobles Mill Rd.)

CITY, TOWN

nr. Darlington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Curry

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 2015 Nobles Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

Darlington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

zip code  
21034**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 1-1/2-story frame house, now covered with aluminum siding, is located on the north side of Nobles Mill Road, just west of the junction with East Nobles Mill Road.

Facing south and set on a raised stone foundation, the house, which is 5 (3 in the 2nd story) bays wide and 1 room deep, has a raked cornice and 2 chimneys in the north slope of the roof-brick on the east, stuccoed on the west. Although some windows have been altered, most have 2/2 sash and plain wide trim. The 2nd story knee windows on the south facade have 6 lights. A hipped-roof porch spans the center 3 bays of the south facade, which has a center entrance with a transom.

The interior has a center hall plan. Although superficially re-modelled, most of the original trim with a complex beaded central band is extant, as is the fireplace mantel in the east room. The latter has a cornice composed of a series of progressively recessed bands, slightly projecting, corner blocks containing recessed panels, and, flanking the brick opening, pilasters containing single oblong recessed panels.

There are 4 outbuildings of historic interest adjacent to the house. East of the house is a gable-roofed stone springhouse with a trough inside. The sawn roof rafters are butted together.

North of the house is a frame clapboard smoke-house with a hipped roof with cedar shakes.

North of the smokehouse is a 1-1/2-story, gable-roofed board and batten shed with a partially-finished interior. There are 2 entrances in the south side- a large, garage size opening on the west leading to an unfinished storage area and a door on the east leading to a room with a staircase. The latter is also reached by a door in the east end. One interior brick chimney is visible from the exterior, a second one in the north end of the east room is apparent upon investigation of the interior--there is a brick fireplace and chimney stack there.

The shed has an exposed pegged frame, with sawn rafters butted together. A staircase in the east room leads to a finished (i.e. plastered) room in the 2nd story on the west. This room is particularly interesting for the graffiti that has been preserved: "Gover's Mills 1886", "Harry Gover", "Silk pokey-dot doll dress \$1", "Canary and Cage \$1-25", "Bess and Peg Inc. Toy Store".

A 3-holer frame outhouse is located behind the shed.

A marker by the road is inscribed "H G 1852".

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gover family, owners of the Gover (now Noble's) Mill in the middle of the 19th century also owned most of the land around the mill itself on both sides of Deer Creek at that time. Both the 1858 Jennings & Herrick Map and the 1878 Martenet's Map indicate a cluster of buildings around the mill, and this house may be presumed to have been among them. A stone (perhaps a mounting block) with the initials H G and the year "1852" by the road suggests the house may have been constructed at that time, and there is graffiti in the 2nd floor of the board and batten outbuilding with the names of Harry Gover and Govers Mills and the date 1886. Although Harry Gover's name does not appear in the title search, this may have been part of the estate of Priscilla Gover, who died in 1790 and left her property to the sons of Benjamin Kidd Wilson and to Samuel, Eliza, Gerard, Robert, Philip, Mary, and Priscilla (or Mary Priscilla), the children of Philip Gover.

According to the Maryland Historic Sites Inventory form for Noble's Mill (HA-335), Robert Gover established Gover's Mill, and the present mill structure was built by Gerard Gover in 1854, although Mary Priscilla Gover owned the land at the time. The Govers sold the mill to Benjamin Noble in 1869, but continued to own property in this area, and by 1874 the Govers had lost all of their property in this area in trustees' sales.

Architecturally, this residential complex is extremely interesting. Although the house has been re-modelled, the presence of the knee windows is relatively unusual in the area and worth noting, and its low broad proportions are seen more often in stone than frame houses. Also, most smokehouses and kitchen buildings that have survived are of a more durable brick or stone construction. The survival of this frame smokehouse with its original cedar shakes and the frame kitchen/residence (for servants/slaves/mill workers?), later used as a playroom for the Govers, is also worth noting.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land, will, and equity records of Harford County  
Maryland Historic Sites Inventory  
forms, HA-335, 336

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

DATE

8/80

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Gover - Curry House  
Title Search  
HA-338

1. 605/192	Nov. 8, 1962	Grantor: Harry G. and Margaret N. Hopkins Grantee: Franklin R. & T. Jacqueline Curry Acreage: 12.86 A
2. GRG 437/300	June 15, 1955	Grantor: Margaret C. Schuermann, widow Grantee: Harry G. and Margaret N. Hopkins Acreage: 3 parcels 99.30 A. near Nobles Mill
3. GRG 329/232	April 16, 1949	Grantor: Janet E. Pyle Grantee: Margaret C. Schuermann Acreage: 84 A
4. GRG 329/227	April 16, 1949	Grantor: Margaret C. Schuermann et al Grantee: Janet E. Pyle Acreage: 84 A. "Noble's Mill Property" and "Sugar Hill Farm"
5. GCB 267/313	Aug. 15, 1941	Grantor: Wm. S. Noble, unmarried Grantee: Wm. and Margaret Schuermann Karl Joseph Schwing Acreage: "Nobles Mill Property" = 117 A.
6. WSF 108/315	Dec. 15, 1903	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams, Trust. (Stevenson Archer vs. Gerard Gover) 2nd part: Robert Wilson, husb. of Mary A. Wilson Sum: \$3800 3rd part: Wm. S. Noble Sum: \$2000 Acreage: farm and mill seat on both sides of Deer Creek = 90 A. "New Stead", "Smith's Mill", "Henley's Enlargement", "Bachelors Good Luck".
7. WHD 18/308	Feb. 12, 1867(Mort.)	Mortgagor: Gerard and Cassandra Gover Mortgagee: Stevenson Archer Sum: \$4510 Acreage: tract formerly known as Smiths Mill now Govers Mills = 40 A. also "New Stead" = 44 A. also 4 A 1R 25 p
8A. WHD 16/324	Dec. 2, 1865	Grantor: M. Priscilla Gover Grantee: Cassandra Gover Sum: \$660.93 Acreage: 4 A 1R 25 p

(see continuation sheet #1)

(continuation sheet #1)

Gover-Curry House

Title Search

HA-338

9A.	WHD 16/52	May 14, 1964	Grantor: Henry C. Stump Wm. Hopkins of Joseph Grantee: M. Priscilla Gover Sum: \$660.93 Acreage: 4 A 1R 25p
10A.	HD 29/278	March 22, 1844	Grantor: Henry W. Archer and John H. Price, trustees Grantee: Henry C. Stump, Wm. Hopkins (Joseph Cowden vs. Herman Stump et al) Sum: \$260 Acreage: devised by John Forwood to Jacob Forwood to Herman Stump et al = 147 A.
8B.	WHD 16/305	Feb. 9, 1867	Grantor: Stevenson Archer, trustee Grantee: Cassandra Gover (Chas. W. Lee vs. Gerard Gover & Stevenson Archer) Sum: \$2140 Acreage: "New Stead" = 44 A.
9B.	ER ALJ 12/51	Feb. 12, 1872	Mort. 3/20/1851 Mortgagor: Gerard Gover of Balto. City Mortgagee: Chas. W. Lee Sum: \$2000 Acreage: "New Stead" 44 A. 102 p
10B	HDG 37/36	March 17, 1851	Grantor: James Lee and Amanda Hopkins et al Grantee: Gerard Gover Sum: payment of mort. to Chas. Lee = \$3018.75 Acreage: "New Stadt" = 43 A 20 p part of farm whereon the late Jos. Hopkins resided at the time of his death
8C	WHD 18/306	Feb. 9, 1867	Grantor: Stevenson Archer and M. Pricilla Gover Grantee: Cassandra Gover (M. Priscilla Gover and Ann E. Gover vs. Stevenson Archer, trustee) Sum: \$8250 Acreage: now known as the Gover Mill and was formerly known as Smiths Mill = 40A.
9C	HD 35/443	Aug. 22, 1849	Grantor: Philip Gover Grantee: Mary Priscilla Gover Sum: \$275 Acreage: Philip Gover's share of "Smith's Mills" now occ. by Robert Gover, his father. = 40 A.

(see continuation sheet #2)

(continuation sheet #2)

Gover-Curry House

Title Search

HA-338

10C. Will records AJ 2/251

Will of Priscilla Gover 1789  
left estate to nephews Benjamin Kidd Wilson  
and Henry Wilson, sons of Benjamin Kidd Wilson  
and to Samuel, Eliza, Gerard, Robert, Philip,  
Mary, Priscilla Gover.



1303320504 HA 338

N. R. FIELD SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST  
BOX 1704

ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404 (Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Franklin Curry's house
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: East side of Lost Noble Mill Road about 0.6 mi			
CITY OR TOWN: Dorchester south of Troppa Church Rd.			
STATE: Maryland	CODE:	COUNTY: HARFORD	CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNERS NAME:	Franklin L. Curry
STREET AND NUMBER:	Noble Mill Road
CITY OR TOWN: Dorchester	STATE: Maryland

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT	
STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST	
CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR	STATE: MARYLAND
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY:	
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:  
COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

8961

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Simple frame house  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories,  
 5 bays x 2, ~~wind~~ facing west, the ridgepole n-s.  
 A front porch ~~shelters~~ the door and  
 a window on each side. Windows  
 $2\frac{1}{2}$  at front of house  $\frac{6}{6}$  elsewhere.  
 The half-story above has three small  
 sashes under the eaves, a window in  
 each end wall.  
 Chimneys vary, both located on  
 interior walls.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☒

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐lasaphy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

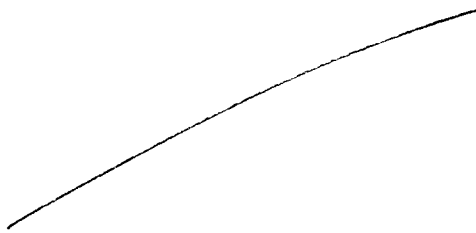
Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Undoubtedly built to house  
workers for Noble's Mill. Farm  
buildings indicate that it  
was also a farmhouse.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES



## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. ELVING		
ORGANIZATION: MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	DATE:	
STREET AND NUMBER: 30 STATE CIRCLE		
CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS	STATE: MARYLAND	COOE:

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5763 III NE  
(DELTA)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

76°15'  
39°37'30"

194 300m E

195

196 12'30"

197 12'30"

198 12'30"

Aberdeen Quadrangle

438500m N

4384

4383





HA-338

Gover-Curry House  
Darlington, Maryland 21034  
Natalie Shivers  
4/80  
South

GOVERNMENT.

GOVER'S Mills

SEP 23 1886



HA-338

Gover-Curry House  
Darlington, Maryland 21034  
Natalie Shivers  
4/80  
Graffiti in playroom



HA-338

Gover-Curry House  
Darlington, Maryland 21034  
Natalie Shivers

4/80

Smokehouse, kitchen/playroom